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Reception cancelled at Dutch embassy

QUEEN'S DAY The Dutch embassy in Ottawa cancelled a Queen's Day reception on Thursday evening after a Dutch driver, allegedly attempting to assault the royal family, killed five people and injured 13 others when he plowed into a crowd gathered for a royal parade in the city of Apeldoorn.

The members of the royal family were not injured.

In light of the attack, the Queen's Day reception in Ottawa was cancelled. Food from the event was donated to the Shepherds of Good Hope.

A release from the Dutch embassy stated it was considering cancelling this weekend's events as well.

A Sunday church service at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Kent Street will proceed, but with a different focus.

The embassy stated it was overwhelmed by expressions of sympathy from people in the city.

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA
MORE COVERAGE, PG 7



Joannie Hebert, a performer with the Théâtre de l'Aubergine, works out on a trapeze in Major's Hill Park Thursday. Théâtre de l'Aubergine is running circus workshops in the park during the Canadian Tulip Festival, which starts on Friday. This year's festival is expected to attract 600,000 people.

On the web

Grit convention

- Follow Parveen Sandur's blog from the federal Liberal convention in Vancouver at metronews.ca.
- For news updates from the convention, see metronews.ca.

Celebrity Buzz pg 26

Lindsay replaces DJ with buzz drink?



Tulips 'right on the money'

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

This year, Tulipfest will feature more than just pretty flowers as organizers of the Canadian Tulip Festival double the number of sites and expand entertainment offerings.

"We've gone from two locations to four, which is huge," said festival spokesman Connor McGuire.

"We wanted to get a larger community presence, to have it more integrated into the city of Ottawa," he said. "It doesn't matter what part

of town you're in — you're going to be able to experience some part of the tulip festival."

Organizers are looking forward to a successful first weekend as the festival kicks off Friday. This year, the timing of the tulips is "right on the money," McGuire said.

An estimated 600,000 people from all over the world are expected to visit the four sites over 18 days, said Julian Armour, executive director of the tulip festival.

Although the three million tulips planted in the nation's capital will always be a main attraction for the festival,

"the tulip festival is about getting people out of the house after a long winter and to concerts and performances," Armour said.

This year, events include a circus school, performances by China's Nanjing Acrobatic Troupe and appearances by big-name speakers including Sir Bob Geldof, Rick Mercer, Margaret Atwood and Sister Helen Prejean.

"We wanted to get a larger community presence."

Connor McGuire

Are keys included?

Chrysler files for bankruptcy protection, inks Fiat deal

Chrysler LLC filed for bankruptcy Thursday and announced an industry-changing deal with Fiat, after being pumelled by sliding auto sales and unable to reach agreement on restructuring its debt.

Despite weeks of intense negotiations, Chrysler failed to gain full support from its lenders to avoid the first-ever bankruptcy filing by a major U.S. automaker.

The move was hailed by President Barack Obama as a critical step in saving 30,000 jobs at Chrysler, majority-owned by Cerberus Capital Group, and hundreds of thousands

more jobs at affiliated suppliers and dealers.

At the same time, Chrysler entered an expected alliance with Fiat SpA, in which the Italian carmaker was given an initial stake of 20 per cent.

Chrysler struggled in recent years to compete, hurt by its near total reliance on the U.S. market, poor quality and a truck and SUV-dominated lineup with the lowest combined fuel economy of any major automaker.

The Chapter 11 filing, in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Manhattan, has implications for the entire industry — including Chrysler's rivals and suppliers.

As part of the filing, the U.S. government will provide up to \$4.2 billion in debtor-in-possession financing and up to \$5.4 billion in exit financing. Obama said he hopes the entire process will take only 30 to 60 days.

Some of Chrysler's 3,600 U.S. dealers are expected to close, and Chrysler Financial will stop providing loans for new cars and trucks. Instead, General

Motors

Corp's financing arm, GMAC, will provide loans to Chrysler dealers and customers.

In addition to Fiat's ownership stake, U.S. officials expect

Chrysler to

be 55 per cent owned by the United Auto Workers' healthcare trust fund while the U.S. and Canadian governments hold a combined stake of 10 per cent.

Chrysler has three manufacturing plants in Canada and had to reach agreements with its unions there and the Canadian government under the restructuring.

The automaker is not filing for bankruptcy in Canada, but the Canadian government, along with the province of Ontario, said they will provide \$2.42 billion in financing to help the company restructure.

REUTERS

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2009 COROLLA CE

- Loaded
- A/C • Auto
- 37,613 km
- St: 27527

\$15,980

\$136***
BI-WEEKLY



2006 SATURN ION

- Loaded
- A/C • Auto
- 74,168 km
- St: 25762

\$10,850

\$103**
BI-WEEKLY



2006 NISSAN 350Z ROADSTER

- Loaded • A/C
- Lthr • Auto
- 18,151 km
- St: 26938

\$33,630

\$313**
BI-WEEKLY



2007 PONTIAC G5

- Loaded
- A/C • Auto
- 56,136 km
- St: 27416

\$10,850

\$92***
BI-WEEKLY



2006 FREESTYLE SEL

- Loaded
- A/C • Roof
- 80,657 km
- St: 27561

\$13,470

\$128**
BI-WEEKLY



2007 MAZDA CX7

- Loaded • A/C
- Roof • Lthr
- Auto
- 27,876 km
- St: 27205

\$26,950

\$223***
BI-WEEKLY



2006 TRIBUTE

- Loaded
- A/C • AWD
- 91,358 km
- St: 27441

\$12,670

\$121**
BI-WEEKLY



2008 ROGUE S

- AWD • Loaded
- A/C • Auto
- 22,861 km
- St: 26624

\$21,980

\$219***
BI-WEEKLY



2008 SCION XB

- Loaded
- A/C • Auto
- 39,622 km
- St: 26777

\$19,950

\$187***
BI-WEEKLY



2004 CADILLAC SRX

- AWD • Loaded
- A/C • Lthr
- 95,579 km
- St: 25439

\$16,950

\$185**
BI-WEEKLY



2005 EQUINOX LS

- Load • A/C
- AWD • A/C
- 91,173 km
- St: 27607

\$10,960

\$120**
BI-WEEKLY



2006 BMW 325i

- Loaded • A/C
- Auto
- 36,933 km
- St: 25972

\$28,890

\$269**
BI-WEEKLY



2006 Sebring Ltd Convert

- Loaded • A/C
- Lthr • Auto
- 61,940 km
- St: 27530

\$16,780

\$160**
BI-WEEKLY



2006 CHRYSLER 300

- Load • A/C
- Auto
- 44,951 km
- St: 26910

\$15,950

\$152**
BI-WEEKLY



2006 FIVE HUNDRED

- Loaded • A/C
- AWD • Auto
- 67,050 km
- St: 27259

\$10,750

\$102**
BI-WEEKLY



2006 MUSTANG CONVERT

- Load • A/C
- Lthr • Auto
- 47,972 km
- St: 25583

\$18,870

\$180**
BI-WEEKLY



2007 LIBERTY 3.7L

- Loaded
- AWD • A/C
- 59,389 km
- St: 26397

\$16,750

\$143***
BI-WEEKLY




2007 CAMRY LE

- Loaded • A/C
- Auto
- 49,256 km
- St: 27139

\$17,950

\$153***
BI-WEEKLY



2006 ESCAPE XLT

- Loaded • A/C
- Auto
- 48,544 km
- St: 27602

\$13,980

\$133**
BI-WEEKLY



2007 AUDI A4

- Loaded • A/C
- Roof • Lthr
- Auto
- 28,484 km
- St: 26441

\$29,970

\$248***
BI-WEEKLY



2005 MAZDA6

- Loaded • A/C
- Auto
- 63,435 km
- St: 27612

\$10,960

\$120*
BI-WEEKLY




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2005 SMART FORTWO CDI

- Loaded • A/C
- Auto
- 68,774 km
- St: 27439

\$12,450

\$136**
BI-WEEKLY



2007 ECLIPSE SPYDER CONVERT

- Loaded • A/C
- Auto
- 25,752 km
- St: 25752

\$23,850

\$203***
BI-WEEKLY



05 HONDA CR-V

- Loaded • A/C
- AWD • Auto
- 55,816 km
- St: 27296

\$16,880

\$185**
BI-WEEKLY



2005 MONTANA SV6

- Load • A/C
- Lthr • Auto
- 113,296 km
- St: 80311-A

\$9,980

\$109**
BI-WEEKLY



2006 FOCUS SE ZX4

- Load • A/C
- Auto
- 54,879 km
- St: 27427

\$8,940

\$85**
BI-WEEKLY



2005 CIVIC SE

- A/C
- 94,158 km
- St: 27337

\$8,970

\$98*
BI-WEEKLY



2004 QUEST 3.5S

- Load • A/C
- 73,466 km
- St: 27445

\$12,850

\$141*
BI-WEEKLY



2006 TORRENT

- Loaded • A/C
- 81,507 km
- St: 27459

\$12,850

\$122**
BI-WEEKLY



2005 FORESTER 2.5XS

- Loaded
- AWD • A/C
- 67,207 km
- St: 27473

\$15,980

\$175**
BI-WEEKLY



2005 ACCENT GS

- Load • A/C
- Auto
- 57,183 km
- St: 27513

\$7,550

\$83*
BI-WEEKLY



2004 SONATA

- Load • A/C
- Auto
- 79,930 km
- St: 27599

\$8,350

\$91*
BI-WEEKLY



2005 MAZDA3

- A/C
- 106,968 km
- St: 27206-A

\$8,850

\$97*
BI-WEEKLY



2004 PILOT

- Loaded • A/C
- Lthr • Auto
- AWD
- 51,044 km
- St: 26639

\$19,950

\$218*
BI-WEEKLY



2006 IMPREZA S/W

- Loaded • A/C
- AWD
- 67,838 km
- St: 27588

\$14,980

\$143**
BI-WEEKLY



2005 NEW BEETLE

- Loaded • A/C
- Auto
- 40,297 km
- St: 27002

\$12,980

\$142*
BI-WEEKLY



2008 SWIFT

- A/C
- Auto
- 51,028 km
- St: 27479

\$9,940

\$85***
BI-WEEKLY



2005 SATURN ION COUPE

- Loaded • A/C
- Roof • Auto
- 25,440 km
- St: 27561

\$8,960

\$98*
BI-WEEKLY



2005 OPTRA5

- Loaded
- Auto
- 77,061 km
- St: 27608

\$8,370

\$92*
BI-WEEKLY



2005 JAGUAR X-TYPE 3.0

- Loaded • Roof
- Lthr • AWD
- 54,668 km
- St: 27535

\$21,850

\$239*
BI-WEEKLY



2006 MIATA MX5 CONVERT

- Loaded • A/C
- Auto • Lthr
- 53,323 km
- St: 27533

\$23,890

\$227**
BI-WEEKLY



2006 MAZDA5

- Loaded • A/C
- Auto
- 72,557 km
- St: 27605

\$14,840

\$141**
BI-WEEKLY



2005 PURSUIT

- A/C
- 53,213 km
- St: 25236-A

\$7,850

\$86*
BI-WEEKLY



2005 CARAVAN

- Loaded • A/C
- Auto
- 87,808 km
- St: 27251

\$8,930

\$98*
BI-WEEKLY



2004 FREESTAR SE

- Loaded
- A/C
- 90,574 km
- St: 26082

\$7,950

\$87*
BI-WEEKLY



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City cracking down on traffic infractions

This month, the city's Selective Traffic Enforcement Program is targeting drivers who run red lights and change lanes unsafely. Police said that in 2008 red light runners caused 1,671 collisions, while unsafe lane changes resulted in 1,060 collisions. **METRO OTTAWA**

3

Local



Female jogger chased in Springhurst Park

Ottawa police are investigating a suspicious incident after two men chased a female jogger late Tuesday. Police said that at 11 p.m., a woman in her 20s was jogging in Springhurst Park when two unknown males began to chase her. They stopped their pursuit when the woman reached Lees Avenue. Police are seeking a five-foot-nine white male with a slim build. There is no description for the second male.

METRO OTTAWA

CHEO riding wave of help

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

People all over the world understand the benefit of a hospital for children, so when Ray Moffatt calls for pledges for the CN Cycle for CHEO, the money comes from far and wide.

"I've solicited a lot of funds from all over the place," he said. "I've had a

large amount of support from a large number of colleagues in Dallas, Texas, as well as colleagues in China and in India."

There have been few instances that Moffatt, a father of four, made use of the services at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, and has run into more people who have.

"Regardless of the outcome, people will speak

very favourably of their experience at CHEO," he said. "You get the sense in the community that the money goes for something good. You actually see the returns in the form of people's experience and how they talk about CHEO."

On Sunday morning, cyclists will ride in the 18th edition of the CHEO Foundation's fundraiser for pediatric cancer.

CHEO Foundation vice-president of development and corporate relations Kevin Keohane said organizers set a goal of \$500,000 this year, which is slightly less than last year, partly because of the slumping economy.

Staged at the Nortel site, the annual event has 30- and 70-kilometre rides, a 12-km in-line skate route and a 5-km walk.

Regular moms into incredible things

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

EVENT Women these days are busy — and this weekend, they can find everything that makes them tick under one roof at the Ottawa National Women's Show.

"The show includes everything women want to know and more," said Tanya Williams, spokeswoman for the show at Lansdowne Park. "We have fashion, career, food and wine sampling, beauty and makeovers, healthy eating and fitness."

"We call it the ultimate girls' day out."

For many area women, this show might be their only chance to get to everything they want to do in one day, Williams said.

"Women are always tak-

ing on as much as they can because that's what women do," she said.

"The biggest challenge for moms today is finding time to do it all," agreed Catherine Marion, co-host of Slice Television's The Mom Show.

On The Mom Show, the Ottawa resident and mother of four speaks openly about motherhood.

"Sometimes it's not a bed of roses," she admitted. "Kids vomit and teenagers get their hearts broken. But by sharing these things, I hope people can connect — I'm just a regular mom who drives her kids to hockey, piano and their friends' houses."

The women's show, which begins Friday and runs through Sunday, is expected to attract between 15,000 and 20,000 attendees.

No props, just straight seeing dead people

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

EVENT He doesn't tote a deck of Tarot cards or use a crystal ball.

A 27-year-old clean-cut Ottawa resident, Marc Jade doesn't fit the stereotype of a psychic medium.

"A lot of mediums look really scary," said Jade. "Most of the time, people think of an old woman with a crystal ball."

But, he said, don't let that fool you about his ability — this weekend, Jade will be doing what he does best — communicating with both earthbound spirits and the spirits of people who have "crossed over" as a headliner at the Ottawa Women's Show.

In his line of work, Jade encounters skeptics all the time, but said "it's important to be skeptical until something is proven."

The spirits are around all the time, he said. "They're walking down the streets,



Standing in the ByWard Market earlier this week, Ottawa-based psychic medium Marc Jade will be featured at the Ottawa Women's Show at Lansdowne Park this weekend.

on planes. They'll just be doing things as if they were still alive."

Although most people can't see them, they can

see us. Fortunately, most of them mean no harm, he said. "And they have a good sense of humour."

Despite the complica-

tions that working with the dead involve, Jade said "to see people's faces after they've been helped is rewarding."

News in brief

VIOLENCE The Ottawa Police Service Liaison Committee for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Trans Communities is focusing on intimate partner violence when it hosts its annual Community Outreach Information Exchange on Friday. The meeting, entitled Navigating the Ins and Outs: GLBT Partner Assault, is held at the Richelieu-Vanier Community Centre and explores the basics of partner violence in the GLBT community, as well as the influence of cultural experiences. **METRO OTTAWA**

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Videos Stephen Harper spends his birthday with a flock of flamingos and defending his government's investment in Chrysler at metronews.ca/canada

Lotteries KENO

Ontario Pick 3: 1 8 9; Ontario Pick 4: 9 7 1 5
Encore: 2850655

Daily Keno: 2, 4, 6, 9, 14, 19, 21, 22, 30, 34, 35, 37, 41, 42, 43, 44, 48, 65, 66 & 68.
Payday: 11, 25, 65 and 67.

These results are not official.

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To register, contact:

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Don't miss this rare, incredible opportunity to study with one of the world's true masters and teachers of natural healing. Register now, seats are going fast!

4 local

Police are warning online shoppers to take precautions when completing transactions in person after cops reported a rise in online sales-related robberies. **METRO OTTAWA**

Charity seeks extra line to meet fundraising target

MJ DESCHAMPS
for Metro Ottawa



For the first time ever, this Sunday's annual Walk for Kids Help Phone risks not meeting its financial goal, according to the organization's manager of marketing and fund development in eastern and western Ontario.

"We're really cognitive to the state of the economy this year, so we're depending on (donors) to get that extra pledge if they can," said Clare Wittman. "We can't sustain our services unless we raise the money here."

The walk usually raises about 30 per cent of Kids

"We're depending on (donors) to get that extra pledge if they can ... We can't sustain our services unless we raise the money here."

Clare Wittman, Kids Help Phone

Help Phone's annual budget.

This year marks the 20th Anniversary of Kids Help Phone, Canada's toll-free, anonymous and confidential phone and online counselling, information and referral service for kids and youth.

Last year, Kids Help Phone connected with kids from 3,000 communities across Canada more than 2.2 million times by phone and online.

Kids Help Phone spokeswoman Virginia Middleton said that the use of the service has been increasing over the years as awareness has grown.

"Whether it's an emergency situation, or they're just having a bad day, kids know there will always be someone to talk to when they call."

The Ottawa walk starts at Vincent Massey Park and aims to raise \$150,000.

News in brief

BLAZE Fire investigators are trying to determine the source of an apartment fire that caused \$100,000 worth of damage to a building in the Parkwood Hills area late Wednesday night. The fire started at 11:30 p.m. in a first-floor unit of a four-storey low-

rise apartment building at 1130 Meadowlands Dr. at Ness Street, said Ottawa District Fire Chief Al Karkkainen. About 40 firefighters with 15 apparatus attended the scene and evacuated the building. The fire was contained to the unit,

and caused \$75,000 in damages to the building and \$25,000 in damages to the contents. There were no injuries. Ottawa fire investigators and the Ottawa Police Arson Unit are investigating.

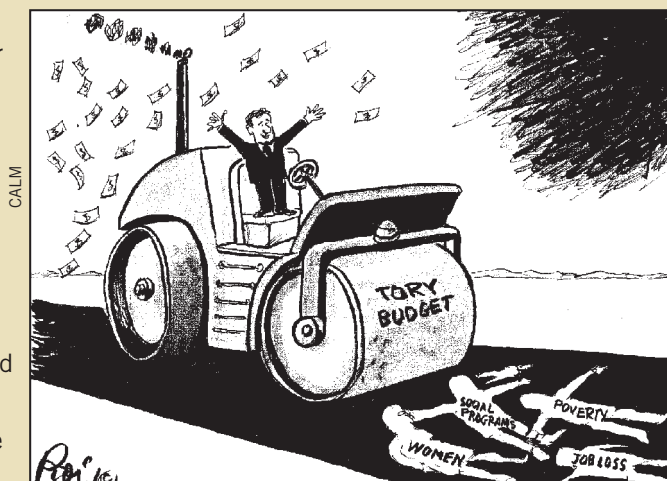
TRACEY TONG/
METRO OTTAWA

Eh! Mr. Harper, the economic crisis is not a reason to take away our rights!

This May 1, we must remind ourselves that the current economic crisis must not be used as an excuse for companies and governments to chip away at the rights that have been painstakingly acquired over the years.

Pay equity, the right to bargain collectively, maternity and paternity leave, benefits for injured workers, reconciling work and family and a host of other benefits that unionized and non-union workers now enjoy have been earned due to the struggles waged by union activists such as those with the Public Service Alliance of Canada. These gains are just as important today as they were yesterday, and we must issue

reminders of this to our governments which all too often use these crises to go back on their promises or restrict rights.



The Harper government took the opportunity afforded by the last budget to attack the rights of public sector workers to obtain pay equity. Moreover, despite signing several collective agreements ratified by our members, it rolled back the salary hikes to take effect over the next few years, which had been negotiated in good faith.

For some 50,000 PSAC members, this May 1 is the beginning of the next federal election campaign: 50,000 people will remember the attacks on their fundamental rights on election day.



Public Service Alliance of Canada
Alliance de la Fonction publique du Canada

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the **Bay**

China and Russia once again lead the list of countries with the worst record on preventing piracy and counterfeiting of U.S. goods, the U.S. Trade Representatives office said Thursday. In addition, USTR said it was putting Canada on the "priority watch list." REUTERS

Canada



Haligonians flee forest fire

A major forest fire in the Spryfield area south of Halifax forced people to flee their homes Thursday afternoon. Halifax Regional Fire Services confirmed that it has been evacuating homes in a section of Spryfield where firefighters were battling a major fire. "There is an evacuation currently on the Purcell's Cove Road on the outside around 800 block and any side streets off that," fire services spokesman Lloyd Currie said.

CBC NEWS ONLINE

Ottawa Harper turns 50



Prime Minister Stephen Harper looks at plastic flamingos placed on the front lawn of his official residence, 24 Sussex Drive, while walking with his daughter Rachel in Ottawa yesterday. Staffers placed 50 plastic flamingos on the lawn to mark Harper's 50th birthday.

Tip of the iceberg: Experts

More confirmations of flu cases expected as results come in

Influenza A (H1N1) continues to march across Canada with 34 confirmed, but mild cases across five provinces — and infectious disease experts say this may be the tip of the iceberg.

Toronto reported its first case yesterday, bringing the number of confirmed cases in Ontario to eight. Health

officials said the Toronto case is a young man who caught the influenza in Mexico and has now fully recovered.

But more cases are expected as test results from nasal swab samples become available.

In Vernon, B.C., 500 students at a French immersion ele-

week after one of their classmates tested positive for the swine flu after a trip to Mexico. It's the first school closure reported in Canada.

The student who tested positive is experiencing a mild case of the swine flu and is at home recovering, said Dr. Perry Kendall, B.C.'s provincial health officer.

All eight Greater Toronto residents who caught the virus recently travelled to Mexico. None required hospital care for their mild flu-like symptoms, said Dr. David Williams, the provincial acting chief medical officer of health.

"I take some confidence so far in the Canadian experience we haven't seen the severe picture that is in Mexico," Williams said yesterday.

In Mexico, the epicentre of the outbreak, there are now at least 168 deaths, with 12 confirmed as H1N1 flu and the rest suspected. Mexicans are being urged to stay at home during the holiday long weekend in order to halt the spread of the illness.

Globally, the case count continues to rise.

In the United States, the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention confirmed 109 cases yesterday, and state officials confirm 22 more. New York has the most with 50 cases.

PM responds

• Prime Minister Stephen Harper said on Thursday the government is doing all that is needed to respond to the swine flu outbreak.

REUTERS

The World Health Organization does not feel it is necessary to ramp up the global pandemic alert to its highest level of six, said Dr. Keiji Fukuda, WHO assistant director. On Wednesday the WHO raised the global alert to Level 5 and told countries to prepare as they felt a pandemic is imminent.

"Phase 5 holds steady and there is no evidence to suggest a move to Phase 6," Fukuda said in a teleconference call from Geneva. "The situation continues to evolve."

Canada has followed the WHO's lead and changed the name of the disease from swine flu to H1N1 flu virus to make it clear the disease is not spread through pigs or pork products. WHO spokesman Dick Thompson said the agricultural industry and the UN food agency had expressed concerns that the term "swine flu" was misleading consumers and needlessly causing countries to ban pork.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Species not being protected: Groups

ENVIRONMENT Canada's species at highest risk — caribou, spotted owls and the freshwater kidneyshell mussel — remain under threat because the federal government is failing to use its own laws to protect them, says a coalition of environmental groups.

A report card released by environmentalists gave Canada a failing grade for "ducking its own laws" by not using the safeguards in its Species At Risk Act.

"In the absence of habitat protection for at-risk species, habitat degradation continues," concludes the report, which was researched and written by Ecojustice, the David Suzuki Foundation, Nature Canada and Environmental Defence.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mental illness leads to pot use: Study

RESEARCH Many teenagers who smoke marijuana are trying to find a way to cope with mental and physical problems, not to get high, Canadian researchers said.

Dr. Joan L. Bortoff of the University of British Columbia in Vancouver and her team found that adolescents who use marijuana to deal with depression, grief, stress or anxiety, have no other option.

"We really need to pay attention to adolescents who are experiencing concerns about their health, who are having difficulties, and we need to work with them to find alternatives," she said in an interview.

The researchers inter-

viewed 20 teenagers from Vancouver and two rural communities in British Columbia about why they smoked marijuana. The province allows some medical marijuana use, the added, and the drug is also fairly available illegally.

In a report published in the online journal Substance Abuse, Treatment, Prevention and Policy, they said six teens said they smoked pot to relieve depression, while 12 said they used the drug to ease stress and anxiety.

Nine used marijuana to help them sleep better, three said pot helped them to concentrate, and five said they used the drug for pain relief.

REUTERS

Moscow Space Canuck



Canadian astronaut Robert Thirsk, right, European Space Agency (ESA) astronaut Frank De Winne, left, of Belgium and Russian cosmonaut Roman Romanenko pose for a picture at the Star City space centre outside Moscow yesterday. Thirsk will begin a six-month stay aboard the International Space Station soon.

STYLING: MOSCOW/REUTERS

Families flee battle zone in Pakistani valley

Hundreds of families fled Pakistan's Buner valley on Thursday as security forces battled through mountain passes to evict Taliban fighters, whose advance towards Islamabad had sown alarm. The military mounted an offensive on Tuesday after the Taliban had crept from their stronghold in the adjoining Swat valley. **REUTERS**



7

World



Egypt culls pigs amid flu fears

Egypt started slaughtering herds of pigs on Thursday as a precaution against swine flu, despite resistance by farmers. The United Nations said the mass cull of up to 400,000 pigs was "a real mistake" because the new strain — a mix of swine, avian and human viruses — has not been found in pigs. **REUTERS**

Flu could be 'drastic': IMF

The economic impact from the swine flu outbreak could be "quite drastic" in some countries, the International Monetary Fund's chief economist said Thursday.

Addressing the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, IMF chief economist Olivier Blanchard said it was clear that tourism volumes will be affected. He indicated it was too early to say what the impact of the outbreak will be on the global economy, which is already in a recession.

Mexico urged people to stay home for a five-day partial shutdown of the economy and its central bank warned the outbreak could deepen recession.

The new flu virus has

Shutdown defied

- A major Mexican factory association said Thursday that plants will operate May 1-5 despite a government call for a shutdown of swaths of the economy.

killed up to 176 people in Mexico and cases have been reported in the U.S., Latin America and Europe. Global markets were taking the news of swine flu, which the World Health Organization officially re-named to influenza A (H1N1) Thursday, in stride.

But if the outbreak shuts down trade, the cost to the global economy could reach trillions of dollars, World Bank studies have estimated. **REUTERS**

Apeldoorn Tragedy at royal parade



Dutch Princess Maxima, left, and Prince Willem-Alexander, second from left, along with other members of the Dutch royal family, look on after a car ploughed into a royal parade that included Queen Beatrix (pictured in red hat) on Thursday, killing five people and injuring 12, officials said.

News in brief

THEORIES Evil farms in Mexico and an al-Qaida plot involving drug cartels are some wild theories behind the deadly flu outbreak. Scientists say the ori-

gins are in fact likely explained by the ability of viruses to mutate and jump among species.

NORTH KOREA U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said

Thursday the U.S. did not intend to give North Korea economic aid, adding Pyongyang was digging a "deeper and deeper" hole. **REUTERS**

Gunman kills 13 at university in Azerbaijan capital

SHOOTING Thirteen people were killed at a university in Azerbaijan on Thursday when a gunman went from floor to floor firing on teachers and students after the bell rang for morning classes.

The gunman, a Georgian citizen of Azeri origin described as a loner by media, was among the dead.

The government said it did not see a political motive behind the shooting at the prestigious State Oil Academy in the capital city of Baku.

A security guard and a cleaner were killed before he opened fire on students and teachers. A witness said one student had tried to stop the gunman, approaching him and shouting: "Don't shoot, don't shoot!" He was shot in the head. **REUTERS**

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U.S. schools with vending machines that sell candy and soda to students could soon find the government requiring healthier options to combat childhood obesity under a bill introduced Thursday by two senators. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

French nuclear plant evacuated

THREAT A nuclear power station at Chinon in central France was evacuated on Thursday after a phone call warning of a bomb, power supplier EDF said.

EDF said that, while searches continued, the core areas of the plant had been secured.

The nuclear plant was still functioning, EDF added.

"We will know at the start of the afternoon whether there is a bomb or not," an EDF spokeswoman said by telephone.

The local authorities said the phone call warning had been made from a phone box in the town of Chinon in the Indre-et-Loire department.

The Chinon plant supplies electricity to around 6 per cent of the French population.

REUTERS

Clinton takes tough stance on assisting North Korea

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said Thursday the United States had no plans to give North Korea economic aid and Pyongyang was digging a "deeper and deeper" hole by its latest actions.

"We have absolutely no interest and no willingness on the part of this administration to give them any economic aid at all," Clinton told lawmakers.

She was defending a budget request for nearly \$100 million for future U.S. economic aid to North Korea.

"We have absolutely no interest and no willingness on the part of this administration to give them any economic aid at all." Hillary Clinton

"That money is in there in the event, which at this point seems implausible if not impossible, the North Koreans return to the six-party talks and begin to disable their nuclear capacity again," she said.

"They are digging themselves into a deeper and deeper hole with the inter-

national community," Clinton added at a hearing by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Last December, the United States suspended fuel aid to the energy-starved North until it agreed to specific steps to verify its nuclear activities, which Pyongyang refused to do.

Kansas Republican Senator Sam Brownback said the request for future U.S. aid funds sent "exactly the wrong message" to the North.

"If North Korea doesn't perform then we should ... move quickly to reimpose sanctions that have been waived," Brownback said.

North Korea Wednesday threatened a new nuclear test unless the UN Security Council apologized for sanctions that were tightened after Pyongyang's April 5 rocket launch.

REUTERS

Man, 50, agrees to divorce girl, 9

SAUDI ARABIA A 50-year old Saudi man has agreed to divorce his nine-year-old bride, media reported on Thursday, after the marriage drew international criticism.

The decision, reported by newspapers Alwatan and Al-Riyadh, came after months of court hearings, criticism from the United Nations and an international media frenzy about Saudi Arabia's human rights practices.

"This is a good step and I think the man did it because he was in a lot of pressure from everyone," Wajeha Al-Huaidar, founder of the Group for Women's Rights in Saudi Arabia, told Reuters by telephone.

Al-Huaidar, who campaigned for the child, said she hoped pressure generated by the case would lead to a law banning child marriages.

REUTERS

News in brief

UK British lawmakers voted on Thursday to overhaul some of their perks, a week after Prime

Minister Gordon Brown proposed changes to quell growing public anger over the

allowances that members of parliament enjoy. Disclosures about expenses have exacer-

bated Brown's woes this year on top of a slumping economy.

REUTERS

INFORMATION FEATURE

Relationships tricky for kids, too



When a relationship turns sour, sometimes it's best to get help and get away, says counsellor Shannon Freud.

DATING Abuse, betrayal and confusion can happen in any relationship but when those things happen to kids, the anxiety and pain can feel all too difficult to bear.

Shannon Freud, 32, works as a counsellor at Kids Help Phone and says for many kids relationships are a difficult sea to

navigate because their feelings can be new, untested and uncertain.

"The teenage years are a time when kids are trying to figure out what it means to be in a relationship and how they feel about being in a relationship. It's definitely something that's very concerning for a kid," Freud said.

Contact

• Kids Help Phone can be reached at 1-800-668-6868.

Whether it's a caller asking if it's normal for a boyfriend to call her verbally abusive names or a kid trying to decipher why

a relationship doesn't feel right, Freud hears from many kids who suffer because they just don't have the same life experiences as adults to draw on when identifying and solving relationship

ship issues.

"The more relationships an individual has, the more they learn about how to communicate in one. Kids really need to have that life experience to learn what works and what doesn't in relationships," Freud said.

Freud says difficult or abusive relationships in the teenage world often mirror those in the adult world, leaving many kids without the tools they need to cope.

"We often see the same issues and kids might be unsure of how to express themselves," she said.

Helping kids resolve their relationship issues is particularly crucial in situations of verbal or emotional abuse because such behaviour could quickly turn violent.

"If two people are in a relationship and they're verbally and emotionally abusive to one another, there's always the chance things could get physically abusive at some point," Freud said.

In cases of serious abuse, both physical and emotional, sometimes the best answer is to get help and keep

away.

"If you leave the situation, that cuts out an opportunity to hurt you. They can't hit you if you're not there and the longer you stay in an abusive relationship, the harder it is to get out," Freud said.

The first step for many kids in dealing with dating and relationship issues is to speak to someone like a counsellor at Kids Help Phone who has the life experience and tools necessary to help. All calls are confidential and counsellors encourage kids only to talk about

what they want to talk about, no matter how minor (or major) their problems may be.

"Kids can call us and talk about what they're going through and what they're feeling in their relationships."

We're here for them 24/7 to help them figure all that stuff out," Freud said.



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Comment & Views

Comment

Hidden worlds of HRCs

Freedom is a Canadian value that we shouldn't give up



Ezra Levant

Three years ago I was the publisher of a magazine that printed pictures of some Danish cartoons of Muhammad. They were newsworthy because those cartoons sparked riots in the Muslim world that killed more than 100 people. We wanted to show our readers what all the fuss was about.

But by doing so, I was charged by the government of Alberta with "hate speech," and prosecuted for 900 days by 15 government lawyers and bureaucrats at Alberta's human rights commission (HRC). I was finally acquitted, but not before spending

\$100,000 in legal fees.

Funny: I thought freedom of speech, freedom of the press and freedom of religion were human rights!

While I was being hunted by the government because of my political views, I researched these HRCs and discovered a whole underground legal system — 14 commissions across the country, with 1,000 full-time staff, and an annual budget of \$200 million. HRCs rarely make the news, and their procedures are nothing like real courts. They're not even run by real judges, and they lack the procedural checks and balances to make sure we don't commit injustices.

Perhaps the most terrify-

ing thing I learned in my research was that in the 32 years that the federal Canadian Human Rights Commission has been prosecuting "hate speech" cases, not a single person had ever been acquitted of the charge. A 100 per cent conviction rate is something you'd expect from a country like China or Iran, not Canada.

Then again, banning words — even offensive words — isn't a Canadian tradition, either. We debate people we disagree with, or we ignore them. We don't have the government prosecute them.

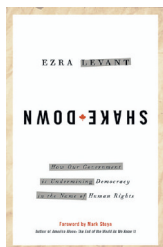
My case, and a similar case involving Mark Steyn and Maclean's magazine, brought the hidden worlds

of HRCs into the light. Since then, politicians and journalists alike have condemned them for their un-Canadian attempts to censor citizens.

Freedom of speech is something we take for granted, so we rarely think about it. But the price of freedom is eternal vigilance.

We've got to reform these HRCs, to get them out of the censorship business. And we've got to remind Canada's other censors — from university "speech code" enforcers to the radio and TV regulators at the CRTC — that freedom is a Canadian value and we won't give it up easily.

Ezra Levant is the author of *Shakedown*. A lawyer by profession, he was the publisher of the *Western Standard* magazine, which reprinted the Danish cartoons of Muhammad.



Views

Crime rate not as bad as numbers say

Urban Compass



Steve Collins

metronews.ca/collins

It was an awkward moment for Ottawa police Chief Vern White last week as he tried to explain Statistics Canada figures that put our police force dead last in urban Ontario for solving crimes.

White, while quibbling with the numbers, conceded Ottawa deserved better than a 31 per cent "clearance rate" of crimes resulting in charges or other resolution, which put us at No. 17 of 17 cities in the province with populations of 100,000 or more.

While there will always

be too much crime, it should never be forgotten that Ottawa's crime rate is relatively low and sinking, with criminal code offences apart from traffic infractions declining by 7.5 per cent last year and around six per cent in each of the two years before that.

New data released last week by Statistics Canada showed Ottawa also suffered from fewer serious crimes than most other major Canadian cities. Only Quebec City and Toronto scored better.

Ottawa is also home to a federal government that nonetheless continues to act as if we are in an ever-worsening national crime wave for which the only solution is more people spending more time in prison. It recently announced measures to make car theft even more

illegal. This discount brand of politics plays off exaggerated public fears, which persist even as actual crime declines.

A COMPAS survey commissioned by Ottawa police last year found about half of Ottawa residents either thought crime was about the same as it was three years ago or didn't know enough to guess. Of the other half, people who thought crime had increased outnumbered by four to one those who (correctly) thought it had decreased.

The news media's emphasis on crime stories, where the more awful and unusual the crime, the more ink it gets, is often blamed for skewing peoples' perceptions of what's actually going on out there. When respondents to the poll were asked about their own neigh-

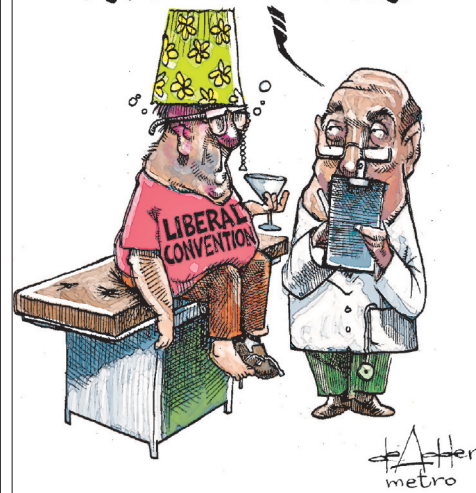
bourhood, the place they see it with their own eyes every day, they were considerably less likely to think things were getting worse.

Curious about your own neighbourhood? Ottawa Police Service participates in crimereports.com, which combines police reports with Google Maps to show you what's happening where. According to the site, in the past month, three B&Es and one theft of a vehicle were reported within a block of my home. Neat.

And then there's the old-fashioned, low-tech solution: Look out for one another. The Ottawa police poll reported that only eight per cent of us participate in a Neighbourhood Watch program.

Steve Collins lives, writes and walks in Ottawa; ottawalatters@metronews.ca.

WHAT YOU HAVE IS GOING AROUND VANCOUVER, BUT IT'S NOT SWINE FLU.



MICHAEL LE ADOUR

Letters

Many people still facing doom and gloom

Re: *This ain't Flint — doom, gloom be damned* (April 30)

Clearly Scott Broderick is not a recent graduate with thousands of dollars in student loans who can't get a job because of the extremely high levels of experienced workers who, having lost their jobs, are now applying for what were once "break-in" or "starter" positions.

He also obviously doesn't work for manufacturing companies, which have laid off hundreds of thousands of employees. Nor does he have a mortgage, car payments, insurance payments, children in university or college, only to

be told both his wife and him have lost their jobs, need to sell their home and car and no longer have extended benefits.

Hmm ... what's with all the doom and gloom, he asks? Perhaps, despite the overall picture, which only benefits those who still have an income, are debt-free and didn't invest in any stocks that have tanked, he should try narrowing his focus to individual struggles instead of trivializing the heartaches and woes of millions of Canadians, Americans and many others around the world.

It's time he got off his pedestal and learned to commune with the common man.

ASHLEY GOODER, TORONTO

Worth mentioning

Female gyms closed in Saudi Arabia

"Let her get fat!" is the slogan women in Saudi Arabia are using to challenge a clampdown on female-only gyms.

Unhappy at the growing number of unlicensed female gyms, the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Af-

fairs recently closed two for not having a licence.

In response, newspaper columnists and bloggers are promoting the sarcastic line "let her get fat!" as a way of fighting back, though it is likely to be a losing battle.

REUTERS

It's your turn to tell others what you think. Email your thoughts and opinions to: ottawalatters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Canadian business innovation lagging: Report

Canada is lagging behind the rest of the world when it comes to business innovation, a trend that could undermine efforts to strengthen its economy, says a new report. **CBC NEWS ONLINE** **11**

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Manufacturing rises

Output boost limits GDP decline: StatsCan

Manufacturing output in Canada rose in February for the first time since July, boosted by a recovery in autos and limiting the fall in gross domestic product to 0.1 per cent, Statistics Canada said on Thursday.

It was the seventh straight monthly fall in GDP and left GDP 2.3 per cent lower compared with a year earlier. But the monthly decline was significantly less than the 0.7 per cent fall in January, which saw a particularly

0.1 The percentage drop in Canada's gross domestic product in February.

weak auto sector.

Motor vehicle and parts manufacturing jumped by 19 per cent, the first rise since June. Overall manufacturing edged up 0.1 per cent, as did the service sector. Oil and gas extraction also rose, but construction,

wholesale and retail declined.

In a separate release, StatsCan said a weaker Canadian dollar and higher primary metals prices had helped boost industrial product prices by 0.3 per cent in March from February.

A strong increase in crude oil prices helped push raw materials up by 12.1 per cent, far more than the two per cent expected by the market.

REUTERS

Business in brief

FOOD The president of a group of disgruntled Quiznos franchisees said the fast-food chain has been granted a court injunction forcing him to close his three Ontario restaurants.

The franchisees allege in a lawsuit that Quiznos is overcharging them for supplies.

TECH Corel Corp., the Ottawa-based software company, said

Thursday that 20 of the 80 jobs it's cutting globally to stay afloat will come from the Ottawa region, CBC News Online reports.

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Detroit's Chris Chelios, Nashville's Steve Sullivan and Florida's Richard Zednik are the finalists for the NHL's Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy. The award is presented each season to the player who "best exemplifies the qualities of perseverance, sportsmanship and dedication to hockey." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports



Molitor bout shelved due to flu virus

Canadian boxer Steve Molitor is facing a delay in his quest to regain a world title, and his promoter says swine flu is to blame. Molitor was scheduled to fight a tune-up bout tonight in Mexico before the spread of the disease prompted a postponement. IBF rules prevent fighters coming off knockout losses – like what happened to Molitor against Celestino Caballero in November – from being top contenders, so winning against a hand-picked opponent was supposed to keep him eligible for the number one ranking. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

NHL Hawks-Canucks, Game 1



The Canucks' Ryan Kesler knocks Chicago's Andrew Ladd to the ice Thursday. For a complete recap, visit metronews.ca/sports.

The faces face off

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The NHL couldn't have scripted the playoff collision of Sidney Crosby and Alexander Ovechkin any better.

Crosby and Ovechkin, winners of the past two MVPs and the faces of the NHL since breaking into the league in 2005-06 after the lockout, have built a slow-burning rivalry that has engaged media and fans alike over the past four seasons.

Throw in Crosby's running mate, Art Ross winner and Hart Trophy candidate Evgeni Malkin, and the flamboyant Ovechkin's supporting cast, Alexander Semin and Nicklas Backstrom, and the league has a match made in heaven.



"It makes for a great story, makes for great media, makes for a great product," said Penguins head coach Dan Bylsma. "Hopefully, all of hockey can capitalize on it."

Crosby has shown disdain toward Ovechkin's flashy goal celebrations, while Ovechkin once said Crosby "talks too much." Semin, meanwhile, threw his two cents into the equation, saying, "What's so special about (Crosby)?"

All of this raised the profile of the Crosby-Ovechkin rivalry. Capitals head coach

Bruce Boudreau said there is no issue with the back-and-forth jawing that has gone on.

"Any word said is picked up and magnified," he said.

"I watch my Alexes and there is no animosity or vindictiveness (toward Crosby) but anything they say will be picked up and it's the top news."

"I don't want them to change who they are." Beyond the drama, the hockey itself should be fast-paced and free-wheeling.

It features the only 100-point scorers in the NHL the past two seasons and the past three scoring champions, and fans tuning in could be in for a treat.

The Penguins-Capitals series begins Saturday in Washington.

Sports in brief

CFL The 2009 CFL draft goes Saturday. The Hamilton Tiger-Cats hold the first and third overall picks, with the Toronto Argonauts selecting second. Alberta offensive lineman Simon Rottier and Laval defensive lineman Etienne Legare are the consensus top two players.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

NHL	THURSDAY'S RESULT
Chicago at Vancouver	
FRIDAY'S GAMES	
Anaheim at Detroit	
Carolina at Boston	
NBA	THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Orlando 114 Philadelphia 89 (Orlando wins series 4-2)	
Boston at Chicago	
Portland at Houston	
FRIDAY'S GAME	
Atlanta at Miami	
MLB	THURSDAY'S AL RESULTS
Kansas City 8 Toronto 6	
Oakland 4 Texas 2	
N.Y. Yankees 7 L.A. Angels 4	
Boston at Tampa Bay	
THURSDAY'S NL RESULTS	
St. Louis 9 Washington 4	
Arizona at Milwaukee	
Florida at Chicago Cubs	
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers	

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR DEPRESSION RESEARCH

Psychiatrists at the Ottawa Psychopharmacology Clinic are currently conducting a research study of an investigational medication for depression. The purpose of the study is to further our knowledge about the possible treatment of depression. **VOLUNTEERS MUST BE EMPLOYED AND NOT RECEIVED VENLAFAXINE OR EFFEXOR (XR) IN THE PAST YEAR.** Treatment duration is approximately 12 weeks and includes a physical exam, blood tests and a psychiatric interview. All information provided will be treated in strictest confidence. To volunteer, you must be 18-70 of age, not currently in psychiatric treatment (unless you are being referred by your treating doctor), have no significant drug or alcohol problems and be in generally good physical health.



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	YES	NO
I am feeling sad and depressed.	■	■
I am having difficult sleeping.	■	■
I am feeling low in energy and slowed down.	■	■
My appetite has changed.	■	■
I am experiencing feelings of guilt.	■	■
I have lost interest in work and pleasurable activities.	■	■
I feel hopeless about the future.	■	■
I feel tense and anxious.	■	■
I am having difficulty making decisions.	■	■
I am having trouble concentrating.	■	■

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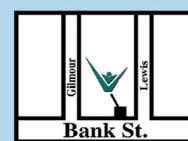
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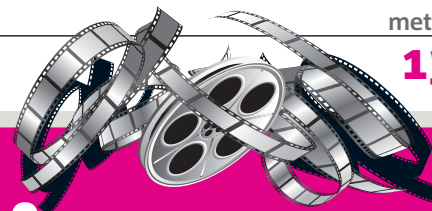
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Movie Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies: Still Sharp

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Leading the charge in three popular X-Men movies turned Wolverine (and actor Hugh Jackman) into one of Hollywood's most alluring big-screen superheroes. For fans of big summer action flicks, his claws will most certainly find some traction.

movies

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Filmmaker admits the tough task of Star Trek casting.

music

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Say your apologies now if you've doubted Green Day.

entertainment

Pg 24



Animation: Where you don't even meet your co-stars.

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-Paul Fischer,
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14 movies&entertainment

At a glance

X-Men Origins: Wolverine ●●½; Ghosts of Girlfriends Past ●●; Two Lovers ●●●●●; Education of Charlie Banks ●●●

Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR



Hugh Jackman, left, and Liev Schreiber play mutant siblings in X-Men Origins: Wolverine, in theatres today.

Sharp claws, no bite

X-Men Origins: Wolverine

Director: Gavin Hood
Stars: Hugh Jackman, Liev Schreiber
Classification: PG
Rating: ●●½

STEVE GOW
 for Metro Canada

Leading the charge in three popular X-Men movies turned Wolverine (and actor Hugh Jackman) into one of Hollywood's most alluring big-screen superheroes. Now, with his origin on-screen for all to see, a mostly uninspired movie may nullify the mutant's mystique.

In fact, although Wolverine is jam-packed with action and eye-catching special effects, at 108 minutes (modest compared to most superhero movies), it may actually suffer from its own succinctness.

It all begins with an engaging prologue set in 1845, after young James Logan tragically discovers the spiky claws that occasionally protrude from his knuckles.

From there, director Gavin Hood (Tsotsi) treats us to a stylish but inexplicable decades-spanning credit sequence featuring Logan and his brother Victor (whose mutant gifts include the razor-sharp "fingernails of a bag lady") battling together through the

On the web

• For movie screen times and film trailers and pictures, or to buy tickets, visit metronews.ca/movies.

Civil War, two World Wars and Vietnam.

They're either immortal, or extremely youthful-looking for their age, we're to presume.

Eventually, they find themselves in a secret organization of mutants led by the diabolical Colonel Stryker (Danny Huston). But after Logan abandons the corrupt squad, he is forced into defending himself from his now-vengeful brother and Stryker's deceptive experi-

ment to enhance mutant powers.

Several other mutants pop up along the way (including the as-yet unnamed character Cyclops) but as mildly-amusing as their appearances are, many seem extraneous or simply underdeveloped. As well, hardcore fans may take issue with a few liberties in the folklore.

While Wolverine may not appease those dedicated followers of the X-Men hero, for other fans of big summer action flicks, Wolverine's claws will most certainly still find some traction.

• To see a X-Men Origins: Wolverine trailer, or for screen times, visit metronews.ca/movies.

In search of a real, human enterprise

NED EHRBAR
 Metro World News



FEATURE As a filmmaker, J.J. Abrams has already had an impressive career, from creating iconic television series like *Lost*, *Alias* and *Felicity* to having a hand in movies as diverse as *Regarding Henry* and the most recent *Mission: Impossible*.

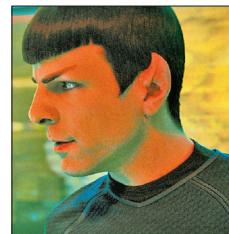
But in bringing his latest, *Star Trek*, to the screen, he faced a new obstacle: How to take a 40-year-old franchise with 10 films under its belt and make it fresh and interesting.

"The audience is very sophisticated now, so it had to work on a level that they didn't have to worry about in 1966," Abrams says. "I never felt it was real. A lot of that had to do with resources they had."

Abrams came on board fairly unfamiliar with the *Star Trek* franchise, something that certainly had a lot of die-hard fans worried. "I never quite got it the way certain people did," he admits. But he saw that as an opportunity rather than a drawback.

"I thought that was a cool challenge, to create a *Star Trek* that was appealing to me."

To make that possible, Abrams focused less on the technical aspects and more on the human — and Vul-



Zachary Quinto plays Mr. Spock in the new *Star Trek*.

can — factor. "I was never worried about the visual effects, I was never worried about the design," he explains. "What I was worried about was finding actors who would make this feel real."

And actors who could step into some of the most iconic roles in science fiction.

While most of the cast fell into place, Abrams was most concerned with finding his two leads, Capt. Kirk and Mr. Spock. "I thought

Spock would be the hardest character to cast," Abrams says. "But Zachary Quinto walked in and I just gasped. It was so obvious he was born to play (Spock)." J.J. Abrams

Finding someone to take on Kirk, a role over which William Shatner casts a long shadow, was more daunting. "Kirk was the last person we cast," Abrams says.

• *Star Trek* hits theatres across Canada next Friday.



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Adoption advice rumours false: Source

Looks like Jennifer Aniston isn't following in ex Brad Pitt's footsteps. Tabloid Star reports that Pitt is giving Aniston advice about adopting a baby boy. "They are completely wrong," a source tells usmagazine.com. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

**Movies**

***** A CLASSIC; **** EXCELLENT; *** GOOD; ** FAIR; * POOR

Doc looks at director of Nazi propaganda film

A new German film turns the spotlight on a man many in the country would rather forget: Veit Harlan, director of infamous Nazi propaganda movie Jud Süss, a wartime hit which helped set the tone for the Holocaust.

Harlan - Im Schatten von Jud Süss (Harlan - In the Shadow of 'Jew Süss'), which recently opened in Germany, focuses on the filmmaker's most notorious work, looking back at his output through the eyes of the extended family he left behind.

ly he left behind.

Director Felix Moeller told Reuters that by shooting the documentary he had hoped not only to explore the previously "taboo" subject of Harlan, but also how the family had dealt with the legacy

of his work for Adolf Hitler's regime.

"Our history as a nation under Nazism has been researched in great depth. But a lot of families still haven't done anything to find out what went on inside them," said Moeller, 43.

In interviews with Harlan's surviving children and grandchildren, the film presents a broad spectrum of responses to living with the stigma of such a controversial forbear.

Harlan's eldest son recalls how he tried to get

his father to take responsibility for the films, while a younger brother refuses to discuss the matter publicly. Other children changed their names just so they could find jobs after the war.

REUTERS

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Movies

★★★★★ A CLASSIC; ★★★★★ EXCELLENT; ★★★★ GOOD; ★★★ FAIR; ★ POOR

Trite Ghosts dead on arrival

Ghosts of Girlfriends Past

Director: Mark Waters
Stars: Matthew McConaughey, Jennifer Garner
Classification: STC
Rating: Ⓢ

NED EHRBAR
 Metro World News

Charles Dickens' beloved and oft-imitated A Christmas Carol gets another swipe taken at it with *Ghosts of Girlfriends Past*, a movie clearly thought up title first.

Matthew McConaughey stars as Matthew Mc-



Jennifer Garner and Matthew McConaughey star in *Ghosts of Girlfriends Past*.

Conaughy, though we're told he's playing Connor Mead, a celebrity photographer and serial womanizer

who was born and raised in Massachusetts, despite his perma-tan and Texas accent.

He ventures home for the wedding of his brother, played by Brekin Meyer (several shades paler and a good head shorter than McConaughy) and proceeds to bah-humbug the whole celebration in a not-terribly-convincing down-with-love drunken tirade.

Of course, there to chal-

lenge his status quo is the one who got away, played begrudgingly by Jennifer Garner.

After a particularly impressive scotch intake, Connor runs into the ghost of his dead uncle (Michael Douglas), who warns him that he will be visited by three... well, you know the rest. The ensuing flashbacks serve solely to make fun of hairstyles and music from the past 25 years, which are

apparently funny only because they are no longer popular. Good to know.

But the movie's greatest sin — and there are many, from a forced and lifeless wedding cake catastrophe to an actual rain of used condoms — is its pervasive misogyny. Douglas' character gets to spout most of the woman-hating bromides, because he can get away with since he's from a bygone era (or so the filmmakers' logic seems to go). But there's plenty to go around. And for all of the "lessons" Connor learns about the emptiness of his lifestyle, it's clear from that the folks behind this film think it's actually pretty darn awesome.

In the end, Connor learns his lesson and every single character — even the most minor, some of whom never even had dialogue — is painstakingly paired off. The movie thinks it's charming, but it really isn't. Much like its protagonist.

Potter film summer favourite: Poll

SURVEY Movie fans expect British boy wizard Harry Potter will magically rule box offices in the upcoming summer blockbuster season that will see familiar faces like Sandra Bullock and breakout roles for a pair of Star Trek stars.

Thirty-nine per cent of respondents in an online poll released Thursday by AOL website Moviefone.com named Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince the summer movie they most want to see. Sixty per cent of the 280,000 respondents said they expect the new Harry Potter movie, which opens on July 15, to be the top box office draw of the upcoming blockbuster season.

"It's going to be a big summer for Harry Potter, people absolutely love that franchise, and for the most part the films seem to get better each time out," said Scott Robson, editor-in-chief of Moviefone.

REUTERS

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SAG members to vote on producers contract

The Screen Actors Guild will mail ballots to members on May 19 to see if they will accept a two-year contract with producers. The guild's national board approved the contract for film and television work on April 19. **TVGUIDE.COM**

Movies

★★★★★ A CLASSIC; ★★★★★ EXCELLENT; ★★★ GOOD; ★★ FAIR; ★ POOR

Full power to superhero spinoffs

InFocus

Richard Crouse

metronews.ca/infocus

Just as Maude spun off from the sitcom All in the Family, superhero characters have often left the safety of the ensemble to strike out on their own. This weekend Wolverine leaves the comfort of Professor Charles Xavier's School for Gifted (read: Mutant) Youngsters to headline his own movie, X-Men Origins: Wolverine.

It's not uncommon for television and movie characters to appear in spin-offs, but why does the comic book world seem to spawn more ancillary projects than any other genre?

"Because superhero movies are based on strong characters with rich histo-

ries it's almost impossible to fit all the most compelling aspects of these heroes and their key stories into one film," says watchtowerpodcast.com comic book expert Jeff Moss. "That's especially true in the case of 'team' stories. Even some of the peripheral characters in the X-Men universe have deep back-stories that would make for great movies."

Among the first of those deep back stories producers tried to exploit sprung from the phenomenally successful Christopher Reeve Superman movies. 1984's Supergirl is the story of Superman's cousin Kara Zor-El, (Canadian Helen Shaver in her big screen debut), who leaves her isolated Kryptonian home to reclaim the powerful Omegahedron orb (which can infuse an artificial structure with life) from the evil witch Selena (Faye "I'm considering nothing less than world domination" Dunaway). Unlike its male oriented

"Even some of the peripheral characters in the X-Men universe have deep back-stories that would make for great movies."

Comic book expert Jeff Moss

predecessors, it was a critical debacle, but grabbed the number one slot at the box office on its opening weekend nonetheless.

Another female superhero spinoff didn't even fare as well as Supergirl. Elektra, an offshoot from the 2003 movie Daredevil, should have been a slam dunk for star Jennifer Garner. Coming off the success of her butt-kicking secret agent series Alias, she should have aced the role of Elektra, an international assassin whose dispatches

enemies with a deadly dagger, but audiences stayed away. On its opening weekend it ranked fifth at the box office and only earned a 34 per cent rating on Metacritic.

Catwoman, Halle Berry's Batman spinoff, was an even bigger disaster, even ranking on Roger Ebert's list of most hated films. Berry acknowledged the film's failure when she accepted the Golden Raspberry for Worst Actress. "I want to thank Warner Brothers. Thank you for putting me in a piece of sh—, god-awful movie..."

The ultimate superhero spin off and comic fan geek-out, however, is yet to come. The Avengers, featuring an all-star line-up including Hulk, Iron Man, Thor, Ant Man and Captain America, already has a confirmed release date of May 4, 2012.

Richard Crouse's Movie Show can be seen every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. on the E! Channel; mrrchaos33@hotmail.com.



Batman spinoff Catwoman, starring Oscar winner Halle Berry, fell flat with both critics and audiences.

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Friday is the 233rd anniversary of the founding of the Order of the Illuminati. Novelist Dan Brown used the Illuminati as his all-powerful secret society bent on destroying the Vatican in *Angels & Demons*, which hits theatres on May 15. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Reel Time

★★★★★ A CLASSIC; ★★★★★ EXCELLENT; ★★★ GOOD; ★★ FAIR; ★ POOR

Three leads lift Two Lovers

Two Lovers

Director: James Gray
Stars: Joaquin Phoenix, Gwyneth Paltrow
Classification: 14A
Rating: ★★★★★

ADAM NAYMAN
 for Metro Canada

James Gray's superb 2007 thriller *We Own the Night* concluded with an affirmation of love wracked by painful ambivalence, and his follow-up, *Two Lovers*, ends on a similarly devastating note.

It's not that the film,

which borrows narrative elements from Fyodor Dostoevsky's short story *White Night*, contains much in the way of surprise.

From the moment that bipolar amateur photographer Leonard (Joaquin Phoenix) locks eyes on his gorgeous blond neighbour Michelle (Gwyneth Paltrow) in the hallway of the Brighton Beach apartment complex where he lives with his parents, it's apparent that we're dealing with a one-way attraction.

What makes *Two Lovers* so affecting, then, is how seriously it takes its protagonist's lovelorn condition

— in lieu of a Hollywood Meet Cute, Gray gives us an empathetic yet faintly disturbing portrait of all-consuming obsession.

A lot of the credit is due to Phoenix's terrifically modulated lead performance. But Gray, who is frequently mischaracterized as a macho auteur, also gives us two compelling female characters.

Besides Paltrow's credibly damaged, endlessly self-destructive party-girl Michelle, there's also Sandra (Vinessa Shaw), an introverted young woman who has been positioned as a love match for Leonard by his overbearing parents.

In another film, Sandra might have simply been an obstacle to Leonard's dream-girl pursuit, but in Gray's more generous conception, she emerges as a



Joaquin Phoenix and Gwyneth Paltrow star in *Two Lovers*.

whole person, complicating the meaning of *Two*

Lovers' title and ultimately giving its final movements

a good deal of their emotional heft.

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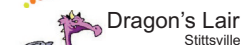
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17 Again

★★★★

REVIEW In his first major starring role outside the High School Musical franchise, Zac Efron is looking to prove that he's more than just a pretty face, that he can carry a movie. And he very well might be able to, if the movie in question didn't spend so much time trying to make that point. There's a certain "Hey look, he's doing it!" aspect to 17 Again that can get in the way of the movie itself. 17 Again follows Mike O'Donnell (played as an adult by Matthew Perry), who, through a bit of hocus pocus, is transformed back to his 17-year-old self (Efron), only it's still present day, so suddenly he's

going to high school with his teenage children.

Ned Ehrbar/Metro World

Adventureland

★★★★

REVIEW If, like me, you had a crappy summer job in the 1980s, *Adventureland* will probably touch a place in your heart. Written and directed by Greg Mottola (*Superbad*), this comedy follows James (Jesse Eisenberg), an aspiring scholar who is forced into working away his vacation to earn his tuition. He reluctantly takes a gig at Adventureland, a worn-out amusement park that specializes in fetid corn dogs, fixed games and the endless sound of Falco's *Rock Me Amadeus*.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Hannah Montana: The Movie

★★★★

REVIEW If you're not a parent of a 10-year-old, here's playing catchup: In the hit TV show, Miley Cyrus plays Miley Stewart, a simple country-girl who also just happens to lead a double-life as Hannah Montana, the most famous pop star in the world. In the big-screen adaptation, Miley's alter-ego is becoming too bloated for her own good when she gets in a shoe-fight with Tyra Banks, and is forced by her dad to take a break from the life of a pop princess.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

The Soloist

★★★★

REVIEW Between its infamous rescheduling out of Oscar season last year and star Robert Downey Jr.'s hilarious diatribe in *Tropic Thunder* about the perils of playing mentally ill on film, it's hard to watch *The Soloist* without that little golden guy tapping on your shoulder. Sure, Jamie Foxx makes a good schizophrenic homeless Juilliard dropout, but an Oscar-worthy one? Downey quietly steals the movie out from under his co-star.

Ned Ehrbar/Metro World

State of Play

★★★★

REVIEW In his fictional follow-up to *The Last King of Scotland*, director Kevin Macdonald perfectly casts Russell Crowe as Cal McAffrey, a shaggy, junk food-devouring journalist who slowly connects the dots to a series of seemingly unrelated events — including the mysterious death of the mistress of a former college roommate.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

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Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Banks limp tale of aimless youth

The Education of Charlie Banks

Director: Fred Durst

Stars: Jesse Eisenberg, Jason Ritter, Christopher Marquette

Classification: STC

Rating: ●●●

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada



Jason Ritter in *The Education of Charlie Banks*.

movie won an award at the 2007 Tribeca Film Festival, but hasn't been released until now.

Contrary to what you might expect, it's actually a very quiet coming of age story ... just not a particularly good one.

The film is about the painfully middle class Charlie (Jesse Eisenberg), who was so terrified of the local bully Mick (Jason Ritter) that he reported him to the police in high school.

Years later, Charlie is in

university and Mick comes to visit. Now cultured, Charlie is popular amongst his collegiate peers and Mick can't quite fit in with the rich kids ... well except for with the ladies of course.

The movie wants to be an allegorical tale of class conflict and the bittersweet beauty of aimless youth, but the filmmakers can't revive the well-worn territory.

Peter Elkoff's script gets away with a few of its clichés through earnestness, but not nearly enough to work.

Durst is surprisingly adept in the director's chair, avoiding the gratuitous flashiness one might expect from someone schooled in music videos. The guy might even have a decent moment in him one day with less pretentious material.

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Billboard's top albums

1. Deeper Than Rap, Rick Ross; 2. Hannah Montana Soundtrack; 3. Sounds Of The Universe, Depeche Mode;
4. Unstoppable, Rascal Flatts; 5. Asleep in the Bread Aisle, Asher Roth. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

Putting the pieces together

Lady Sovereign returns revitalized with latest album Jigsaw

JASON RICHARDS
for Metro Canada

Something seemed amiss with Lady Sovereign at a certain point during her U.S. promotional tour in 2007.

Riding on a wave of hype after her Jay-Z-endorsed signing to Def Jam Recordings, the British rapper buckled under the pressure in the most public of ways. She ranted about being broke and depressed onstage in Brooklyn, N.Y., abandoning her set after two songs to a sea of jeers.

That moment — immortalized on YouTube — marked the start of a downward spiral for the self-proclaimed "biggest midget in the game," who'd spent a couple of years prior rising from the U.K.'s underground grime hip-hop scene.

While her debut album Public Warning's first single Love Me Or Hate Me topped charts, she failed to catch on in the States and was eventually dropped from her label.

The massive touring and

publicity blitz Lady Sovereign underwent during that phase of her career was frustrating, but not without its lessons.

"I learned that there's a line that I had to draw for myself to keep myself sane and not tire myself out," she told Metro over the phone from her place in London. "Because it's not good for me or anyone else around me. Trust me."

When she returned to England, Sovereign was unable to focus on music, so she took six months off and did "not much, to be honest."

"I just hung out with friends, had a social life again, just went back to normality," she says. "And that's what inspired me, really."

The fruits of that inspiration can be heard on her new album, Jigsaw, released on her own Midget Records. The album has a much more electronic feel than her last, and finds the rapper chanting M.I.A.-style and

doing a whole lot of singing — a surprise, given that "I can't dance and I really can't sing"

was one of the hooks on Love Me Or Hate Me.

"Well I couldn't sing then," she says. "I kind of can now, just a little bit."

It's definitely a new direction for the 23-year-old Lady Sovereign, who uses her newfound vocal stylings to wax flirtatious on Let's Be Mates, keep the party jumping on the sultry Bang Bang and express the more, ahem, sensual aspects of cuisine on Food Play.

"I had this friend who was

"I learned that there's a line that I had to draw for myself to keep myself sane and not tire myself out."

Lady Sovereign

majorly into food and I'd always make fun of him, very tongue-in-cheek," she says, explaining the song's origins. "But I know people love that song for whatever reason."

Her new sound isn't the only dramatic change she's made, though. Gone is the trademark "side ponytail" that had been a mainstay of her image throughout her career.

"It was just one of those things," she says. "I was sitting in front of the mirror, brushing my hair, and was like 'screw this.' Half an hour later I'd left the house with my hair down."

"It looks better now, I think."

Jigsaw is the latest album from British hip-hop artist Lady Sovereign.



Metro recommends

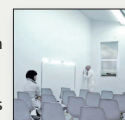
• **UGK 4 Life, UGK:**

The late Pimp C's beats and rhymes help UGK deliver one last dirty-south hip-hop classic.



• **The Future Will Come, The Juan MacLean:**

Kitschy electro-pop big on disco rhythms, '80s synths and guy-girl vocals reminiscent of the Human League.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

TOP 10 MOBILE DOWNLOADS

- 1 Right Round Flo Rida
- 2 Kiss Me Thru The Phone Soulja Boy
- 3 Crack a Bottle Eminem
- 4 Dead And Gone T.I.
- 5 Love Game Lady Gaga
- 6 I'm On A Boat Lonely Island
- 7 Single Ladies Beyoncé
- 8 Jai Ho! A.R. Rahman
- 9 Untouched Verónicas
- 10 Boom Boom Pow Black Eyed Peas

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Music

Green Day endure Breakdown

SoundCheck

Alan Cross

metronews.ca/soundcheck

Back in the spring of 2004, when I heard that Green Day was going to launch a comeback with a punk rock opera, I kinda snorted. In my defence, so did a lot of other people.

The general consensus was that Green Day was on the downside of its career, soon to be relegated to "90s at noon" request shows. Sure, the kids seemed to dig the band when it went out on tour with Blink 182. And yeah, that greatest hits record did well. But to resuscitate a career with a punk rock opera? Seriously?

Even insiders didn't express much confidence. Secret reservations — never confirmed and always denied — were whispered

that this CD would be lucky to sell 75,000 copies in Canada.

All this seems silly now. American Idiot became a mega-selling Bush-bashing opus that not only captured a surly public's mood during W's second term but also the travesty that followed Hurricane Katrina with Wake Me Up When September Ends. The CD is within a hair's breadth of selling a million copies in Canada alone. Add in the six million-ish units sold in the U.S. and many more

millions around the world — well, don't we all look foolish for having doubted Billie Joe and Co.?

So what do you do for an encore? A sequel. Naturally. Two weeks from today, Green Day gets the equivalent of a holiday weekend movie opening for the release of 21st Century Breakdown. Hopes are so high that the band's label can't wait until the usual Tuesday to get the record out. I don't blame them. I've heard the album and I think it's brilliant.



Green Day's 21st Century Breakdown is set for release on May 15.

The libretto for 21st Century Breakdown is built around two American kids, Christian (a "kamikaze nihilist") and Gloria (a naive idealist). Together, the young couple are left to make sense of the world wrought by their 43rd president. Their story is told through three acts and 17 songs. (Yes, that's the official number of tracks.) It's filled with complex movements, delicate piano breaks, Beatles-esque moments and the kind of anthemic stuff that'll

drive concert security forces crazy.

Butch Vig — the knob twiddler behind Nirvana's Nevermind — must have had the time of his life (no pun intended) producing this record. This is a tight, taunt, tense record, but one that still manages to end on a positive note.

I'm sorry I doubted you, Green Day. Won't happen again.

The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

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Jon & Kate Plus...?

Jon Gosselin says he isn't stepping out on his wife Kate — both from TLC's Jon & Kate Plus 8. "I have male and female friends ... However, being out with them late at night showed poor judgment on my part!" **PEOPLE.COM**

movies&entertainment 23

Going Out

Examining Media Issues

InDepth

Influenza A: Rising concerns over the recently renamed influenza A (H1N1) — formerly human swine flu — may have more people interested in learning not only about the virus, but also how things like influenza spread from person to person. Here are a few suggestions for further reading and watching:

- Health Canada (hc-sc.gc.ca), the U.S. Center for Disease Control (cdc.gov), and the United Nations World Health Organization (who.int) offer updated information on health alerts and advice to the public and professionals.

- Malcolm Gladwell's book *The Tipping Point* offers a wonderful view of how trends — and disease — spread among society and become pandemics. Another book about the spread of disease, Steven Johnson's *The Ghost Map*, is a medical thriller about the spread of Cholera through London in 1854. Recent Giller Prize winner Vincent Lam has also written a book called *The Flu Pandemic and You*, about how to prepare for the next influenza pandemic, and how to understand the broader context in which the threat exists.

- CTV's *Plaque City: SARS in Toronto* offers a dramatized look at the effect the SARS crisis had on health-care workers in Toronto. The American Experience's *Influenza 1918* looks at the spread of one of the worst pandemics in world history. Visit PBS.org for more on the documentary.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 Mar-Der Wedding

EVENT Grey's Anatomy's Meredith Grey and Derek Shepherd, played by Ellen Pompeo and Patrick Dempsey, are getting married. An online invitation to RSVP for the fictional couple's upcoming wedding drew 1,400 replies in the first 24 hours. The website includes a gift registry page, where visitors are invited to donate to charities that have a connection to the show's story lines.



2 JCVD

DVD The Muscles from Brussels shows real acting chops in this film. Part Hollywood satire, part action thriller, this movie follows Van Damme as he walks into a heist, which swiftly turns into a hostage situation.

3 X-Men Origins: Wolverine

FILM Arguably everyone's favourite mutant, Wolverine, reprised by Aussie Hugh Jackman, returns to the big screen for the first major blockbuster of the summer. This time, the adamantium-clawed superfreak is pitted against other evil freaks, a mad scientist and a brutal big brother. South African filmmaker Gavin Hood, known for his Oscar-winning *Tsotsi*, directs.

4 Japandroids

BAND This Vancouver garage-rock band is creating such a buzz that it may even drown out their characteristic distorted riffs. The group's debut full-length *Post-Nothing* has not only been feted by popular blogs on the Internet, it has also been hailed by indie tastemaker Pitchfork, which gave the record a coveted 8.3 out of 10 and a spot in its "best new music" section.

Chuck

SHOW This NBC spy-comedy may be hanging by a thin thread after wrapping up its second season this week but it has no shortage of love from fans. Dedicated viewers are using online platforms such as Twitter and food franchises like Subway to keep the show from getting axed. Even critics have joined in, literally begging the network to keep the Zachary Levy-starring show going.

6 Together Through Life: Bob Dylan

ALBUM The American Bard is battling for his fifth No. 1 spot with this dark, brooding look at a country on a downward spiral. He sings in the voices of all kinds of malcontents — drifters, jealous lovers, drunks — without losing his self-deprecating wit. Choice lyric: "I'm listening to Billy Joe Shaver and I'm reading James Joyce ... Some people they tell me I got the blood of the land in my voice."

Michelle Obama

PERSONALITY Hundred days into her tenure, and the U.S. First Lady just keeps getting better and better. Not only did she make it to *People* magazine's 100 most beautiful issue, but she is also continuing her husband's grassroots-level activism in Washington. This week, she joined more than 100 congressional spouses to feed hungry children in the District of Columbia.

Mix of Six

Diana Krall

When: Sat. & Sun., 8 p.m.
Where: Southam Hall, National Arts Centre
Canada's queen of jazz plays a two-night stint in the capital, as part of the ongoing B.C. Scene arts and entertainment events. Tickets \$79.50 and up through the NAC box office, 613-755-1111.

The Ecstasy of Rita Joe

When: Fri. through May 16,
Where: Theatre, National Arts Centre
A new production of George Ryga's famed Canadian play to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the National Arts Centre. Stars Lisa C. Ravensbergen as Rita Joe. Tickets \$14.25-\$61 through ticketmaster.ca.

B.C. Scene Music Legends

When: Fri., 8 p.m.
Where: CentrepoinTE Theatre, 101 CentrepoinTE Dr.
Some of the best folk performers from the West, including Barney Bentall, Shari Ulrich, and Will Mil-

lar. Tickets \$34.50 by calling 613-580-2700.

Mom's the Word 2: Unhinged

When: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.
Where: Arts Court Theatre, 2 Daly Avenue
Five women expound on life with teenagers. A sequel to the popular theatre production *Mom's the Word*. Tickets \$15 through ticketmaster.ca or at the door one hour before show time.

Ron Hawkins

When: Sat., 10 p.m.
Where: Zaphod Beeblebrox
Lowest of the Low singer Ron Hawkins performs solo, with opening act Tanya Janca. Tickets \$12 through ticketweb.ca.

From Great Britain to Cape Breton

When: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.
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CoroVivo Ottawa presents a benefit concert for CHEO featuring piano, Celtic percussion, bass, flute and bagpipes. Tickets \$20, \$10 for students. Call 613-841-3902.

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Ed McMahon is set to give evidence in his legal case against a Los Angeles medical facility — from his hospital bed. McMahon is suing Cedars-Sinai Medical Center after they misdiagnosed a broken neck in 2007. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Television

Booth, Cattrall lend voices to Parker



BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada

Kristin Booth has spoken to, reacted at and also stars alongside Sex and the City siren Kim Cattrall ... but she's never even met her.

"I hope I get to meet her," the sprightly Genie-winning actress from Kitchener, Ont., says with a booming laugh. "That's the most challenging thing about animation. You're not generally in the studio with the other actors. You're by yourself."

Booth stars as title character Parker Novak in Producing Parker, a new prime time animated series that premieres Monday on TVTropolis. Her character is the producer of a daytime talk show, The Dee Show, where she must reconcile the neurotic habits of host Dee — voiced by Cattrall.

"Dee is crazy ... basically every stereotype of an ob-

sessive compulsive but combined with a ladder climbing, anorexic, self-

pos-sessed, self-ob-sessed woman," Booth says, laughing. "Parker has to wrangle her."

And despite having to act with an absent Cattrall, Booth says the actress' effective vocalisation of Dee in-formed her own.

"I got to listen to some of the stuff she recorded which helped me tremendously because I knew where she was going with Dee and how Parker

would react to that and interact with the way she was playing Dee."

"It's bizarre!" she says. "You're in there and you could be falling from a building and screaming and you have to ..." Booth pants, "... do breath. It's all your voice. You can't show anything with your facial expressions."

But in constriction, Booth finds release. "When you only have your voice, nobody can see you," she says.

The freeing experience allowed her uninhibited use of usually visible acting characteristics to bolster her vocal timbre. "All the weird facial expressions or contorted body movements you would probably do but you know would look ridiculous on camera you can do! And nobody but the director and engineers see you!"

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Still, she cites the process of acting in isolation as one of the most difficult parts of voicing an animated character.

Watson's sophomore effort is atmospheric

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

MUSIC It wasn't long ago that Montreal's Patrick Watson was an unknown musician trekking along the Trans-Canada. But, after receiving a new group of the year Juno nomination and winning the Polaris Music Prize in 2007, Watson's sophomore record, Close to Paradise, became a favourite listen among indie fans around the world. It was a heady time for

the guitarist and singer who says winning the Polaris Prize made a difference. "It was significant in Europe, maybe because the Canadian music scene is so strong," says Watson on the phone from Berlin. "It has more weight than the Junos when it comes to bands in the same scene as Arcade Fire and Wolf Parade."

Now, with a dedicated fan base behind him, Watson and his band just released Wooden Arms, an atmospheric collection of

lush, Radiohead-like tunes.

The disc was recorded just after the band finished a two year tour in late 2008, so the group hasn't experienced much downtime since releasing their previous record. They have no plans to push themselves as hard this time around. "We won't tour nearly as much for this record," he says. "We don't want to do that over again."

Watson's reluctance to embark on a lengthy tour is one reason why the band churned out their new

record in a matter of weeks. He wanted to release an album quickly to capitalize on all the travelling the band has done, and he hopes it's good enough to satisfy the fans that won't be seeing him play.

"We felt a little rushed," he reveals. "We could have taken a couple more weeks mixing, but, because we toured so much we didn't want to start from scratch in Europe. We wanted to keep the ball rolling until we have a spot in people's hearts."



Patrick Watson's new album Wooden Arms, a collection of lush, Radiohead-like tunes, was released this week.

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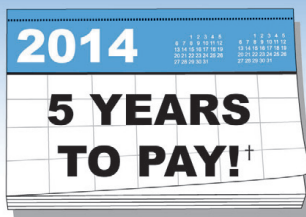
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Did anybody else hear that?

Somebody is apparently haunting the nine-bedroom Bel Air mansion where the American Idol contestants are bunking.

"Some people are convinced that there's a ghost there, especially Allison (Iraheta)," a skeptical Anoop Desai tells People. **PEOPLE.COM**

Entertainment

Willis' action career going strong

Action stars may lose their currency as they move into their 50s. But Bruce Willis keeps on raking in the offers.

The newly remarried Die Hard star, who turned 54 last month, has been in discussions to shoot and fight his way through three indie action pictures — a thriller titled Inventory, the CIA tale Red and the mob biopic Scarpa.

In Inventory, Willis would play a detective on the trail of a murderer. It is

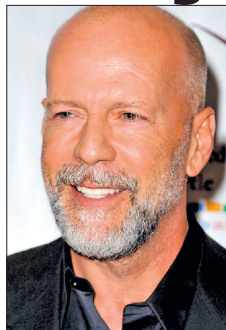
set up at NuImage/Millennium, which is handling Sylvester Stallone's latest crop of movies.

In the comic-book adaptation Red, he would portray a former black-ops agent who is forced out of retirement when a high-tech assassin comes a-calling to threaten him and his girlfriend.

Summit Films, the studio behind the Twilight movies, has made an offer on Red, and Willis' camp has counter offered,

though those with knowledge of the talks say negotiations could yet break off without the sides reaching a deal.

Willis has also been weighing an offer from Morgan Creek to play the title character in Scarpa, a mob biopic about Greg Scarpa, an FBI informant who worked deeply undercover in New York's Columbo family, though the odds are growing that Willis won't do that picture.



REUTERS Bruce Willis

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	6:00p	209	342	6	CHRO	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Supernanny (N)	Whistler (DVS)	Comedy Now		
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	8:00p	-	362	13	CBS	Dr. Phil (HDTV) (N)	Ghost Whisperer (N)	Flashpoint (HDTV) (N)	NUMB3RS 'Disturbed'	Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case
	8:30p	216	395	14	OMN2	Tongues: History Language	News (N)	News (N)	Departures	Out There	Out There	News
	9:00p	214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU	Mantracker (DVS)	THS Investigates: Plastic Surgery	Supernanny (N)	20/20 (HDTV)	20/20 (HDTV)	News
	9:30p	218	345	18	ET	The Insider	ET News	Wife Swap (N)	(9:01) Dollhouse (N)	News (N)	Anderson Cooper 360	Cooper 360
SATURDAY	5:00p	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight	Campbell Brown: No Bias	Prison Break "S.O.B."	Larry King Live (N)	Anderson Cooper 360	Cooper 360	
	5:30p	406	417	27	net	World Sport	MLB Baseball Boston Red Sox at Tampa Bay Rays	(HDTV) (Live)	Le Téléjournal (SC)	RDJ en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	6:00p	126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes	Les Grands reportages	Le Téléjournal (SC)	RDJ en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal	
	6:30p	400	280	30	TSN	NHL Hockey Playoffs - Teams TBA	(HDTV) (Live)	Justice	Futurama	Batman Forever ** (1995, Action)	Val Kilmer, Jim Carrey	
	7:00p	554	544	48	TEL	Batman: Brave	Spider-Man	Wolverine	(9:05) First Kid ** (1996, Comedy)	Sinbad, Blake Boyd	Ernest to Jail	
	7:30p	557	540	51	FAM	Sonny Chance	My Dog Skip *** (2000, Drama)	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Family Biz	Adrenaline	Mystery Hnt.
	8:00p	551	542	65	YTV	Material Girls ** (2006, Comedy-Drama)	Hilary Duff	CSI: Miami "Broken"	CSI: Miami "Broken"	CSI: Miami (HDTV)	Criminal	
	8:30p	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami "Fate Out"	CSI: Miami "10-7"	The Hills Have Eyes ** (2006, Horror)	Aaron Stanford, Kathleen Quinlan			
	9:00p	628	584	32	SPKE	CSI: Crime Scene Investg.	CSI: Crime Scene Investg.	The Best Years (DVS)	Teepees	Kenny-Spenny	Webdrams	Sin Cities
	9:30p	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits	Daily Planet (N)	4REAL	After Show	Canada's Next Top Model	Jurassic Fight Club	Disappear
SUNDAY	5:00p	581	566	53	MTV	NCIS "In the Zone"	Fresh-Anna	Thirsty	Bobby Flay	Dinner	Dinner, Drive-In	Ramsay
	5:30p	603	561	95	FN	Chef at Home						
	6:00p	265	353	2	TVO	National Geographic	Dear Wendy ** (2005, Drama)	Jamie Bell	Interviews (N)	(10:05) River's Edge (1987, Drama)		
	6:30p	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Masterminds	Possible Worlds ** (2000, Science Fiction)	Southland (HDTV)	NHL Hockey Playoffs - Teams TBA	News (N)	
	7:00p	209	342	6	CHRO	The Road to Avonlea	W-FIVE	Law & Order: SVU	Southland (HDTV)	Harper's Island "Bang"	48 Hours Mystery (N)	CSI: NY
	7:30p	196	311	7	CTV	W-FIVE	Law & Order: SVU	Without a Trace (HDTV)	Harper's Island "Bang"	48 Hours Mystery (N)	CSI: NY	Chinese Rest.
	8:00p	208	303	8	CBC	NHL Hockey Playoffs - Teams TBA	(HDTV) (Live)	Without a Trace (HDTV)	Harper's Island "Bang"	48 Hours Mystery (N)	CSI: NY	Chinese Rest.
	8:30p	-	360	9	NBC	Paired Program	Wheel-Fortune	Without a Trace (HDTV)	Harper's Island "Bang"	48 Hours Mystery (N)	CSI: NY	Chinese Rest.
	9:00p	-	362	13	CBS	Bring Wall St	The Insider	Without a Trace (HDTV)	Harper's Island "Bang"	48 Hours Mystery (N)	CSI: NY	Chinese Rest.
	9:30p	216	395	14	OMN2	Chinese Rest.	Trendy Zone	If You Are the One *** (2008, Romance-Comedy)	Housesitter (2007, Suspense)	Tori Spelling, (DVS)	News	
SUNDAY	5:00p	554	544	48	TEL	Dennis the Menace ** (1993, Comedy)	Chelsea v. Fulham	The Ultimate Fighter (HDTV)	PartyPoker.net	La Factice	Le Téléjournal	
	5:30p	557	540	51	FAM	That's Raven	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Han, Montana	Vegas Vacation ** (1997, Comedy)	Prank Patrol	
	6:00p	551	542	65	YTV	True Jackson	True Jackson	Ella Enchanted ** (2004, Romance-Comedy)	Naruto	Bleach	Mystery Hnt.	
	6:30p	615	520	31	A&E	Die Hard With a Vengeance	True Lies *** (1994, Action)	Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jamie Lee Curtis	The Sopranos			
	7:00p	628	584	32	SPKE	Warrior	Deadliest Warrior (HDTV)	Deadliest Warrior (HDTV)	Deadliest Warrior (HDTV)	Deadliest Warrior (HDTV)		
	7:30p	616	521	39	SHO	Mutant X "Interface"	I Me Wed (2007, Romance-Comedy)	Enica Durane	Borat: Cultural Learnings of America	Criss Angel	Criss Angel	Guinea Pig
	8:00p	520	505	42	DIS	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	Destroyed	Time Warp	Deadliest Catch	Canada's Next Top Model	Cribs
	8:30p	581	566	53	MTV	Canada's Next Top Model	Crime Stories	The Four Feathers ** (2002, Adventure)	Heath Ledger	Ultimate Recipe Showdown	Kitchen Nightmares	The F Word
	9:00p	522	506	55	HIS	NCIS	Work for Food	Glutton				
	9:30p	603	561	95	FN	Challenge						



Reality TV star Kim Kardashian has picked out an engagement ring, even though her boyfriend, footballer Reggie Bush, has yet to propose. She was out shopping with bride-to-be friends when she saw her perfect band. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Kim jumps the marital gun

Celebrity Buzz

Britney denies third pregnancy

RUMOUR Britney Spears has had to go on the defensive, denying claims that she's expecting a third child.

The rumour started when American Idol host Ryan Seacrest announced on his radio show that he heard from a "reliable source" that the singer is pregnant.

But Spears' spokesman says there's no truth to the story, according to the Daily Mail.



METRO
WORLD
NEWS

Rihanna 'reborn' in Barbados: Dad

RECOVERY While Chris Brown showed up in court in L.A. this week, Rihanna has been keeping a low profile in her native Barbados.

And her father, Ronald Fenty, thinks the time in the sun might be doing her some good.

"Chris sounds like old news to me," Fenty told Us Weekly, adding that his daughter is "a different person, back to herself. It's like Chris never existed. She seems reborn."

METRO WORLD NEWS



LiLo an energy drink addict?

ADDICTION Lindsay Lohan is addicted to energy drinks, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Mean Girls star — who recently "split" from her girlfriend DJ Samantha Ronson — has been gulping down bottles of the mood-enhancing soft drink to help keep her spirits high.

She said: "I drink so much of it — I love it. There are several kinds, including Neurogasm, which is for sex. But I don't need that one right now, unfortunately!"

The 22-year-old beauty — who has been to rehab

three times for addictions to alcohol and drugs — is thought to be talking about either Neurosonic or Neurotrim beverages.

Energy drink Neurosonic contains caffeine and claims to enhance moods, while Neurotrim is said to stop hunger pangs, speed up metabolism and help burn fat.

Lindsay was recently spotted taking one of

the soft drinks into Los Angeles club Bardot.

A source told Life and Style magazine: "I saw her driver tuck a bottle of something into his pocket before she went in. Lindsay told him, 'You don't need to hide it. It's just my Neuro.'"

METRO
NEWS
SERVICES



Bale explains infamous tirade

RESPONSE Christian Bale feels betrayed by the film crew who leaked his angry rant online, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Dark Knight star is happy to accept the backlash following his four-minute, foul-mouthed tirade against a Terminator Salvation crewmember who distracted him during a scene.

Bale acknowledges his attack was "overboard" but insists it shouldn't have been made public.

He said: "I did it, it's in the public space. I take the consequences for it. I'm not hiding from that."

went overboard.

"I'm not making any excuses, but there is an essential trust and it's not a tacit one, which is every sound guy says, 'We are not recording, we are not even listening.' So, well, there goes that."

"I do stress though, it's not in anyway a trust that's there to cover up bad behaviour. It's not about that. I'm not whining, but it's an essential trust that's needed for creativity."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Speidi brave swine flu

HONEYMOON Heidi Montag and Spencer Pratt decided to go ahead with their plans to honeymoon in Mexico, despite the current swine flu outbreak.

The pair was even spotted while vacationing wearing bathing suits and surgical facemasks, ac-

cording to Hollyscoop.

The masks were still on when they arrived back in Los Angeles.

Montag was quick to update her Twitter account as soon as they got home, writing, "Yah we landed! Praise Jesus! Thank you God! Thank you for my soul mate!"

METRO
WORLD NEWS



Alley talks weight loss

CONFESSION Kirstie Alley, who recently gained back the weight she had lost on the Jenny Craig program, was ready to try again.

"We look around. We see what we want," Alley says on Winfrey's talk show. "I'm saying, I think I'm ready to work."

She also admitted that quitting Jenny Craig and try-

ing to start her own weight loss program might have been a mistake: "We're in the middle of a recession, and I decide, yes, I'm going to create my own business."

METRO
WORLD
NEWS



Top Gun star out of the closet

PEOPLE Kelly McGillis, who starred alongside Tom Cruise in Top Gun, has come out of the closet.

"It's a part of being true to yourself. That's been a challenge for me," McGillis told

shewired.com. McGillis, who has two children from a previous marriage, said realizing she was a lesbian "was an ongoing process from the time I was probably 12."

METRO WORLD NEWS



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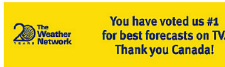
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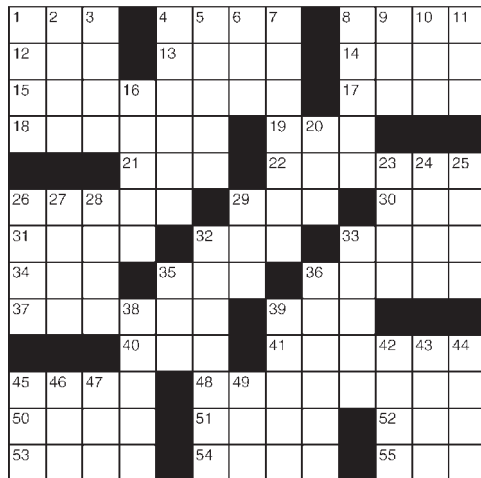
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Take Five



Crossword across

- 1 "Humbly!"
4 Trade
8 Leno's feature
12 Expert
13 Gyro holder
14 Fight the clock
15 Michael Jackson album
17 Previously owned
18 Shadow location
19 Honest politician?
21 Chemical suffix
22 Comic "married" to Fang
26 Sired
29 Visibility hindrance
30 Galena, e.g.
31 Ear-related
32 Indulge in pugilism
33 Check bar codes
34 "— Town"
35 Tussaud's medium
36 Stickup job
37 Extremely impressive
39 Bovine utterance
40 Sapporo sash
41 Entertained
45 Piece of work
48 German poet/dramatist
50 Leak slowly
51 Subsequently
52 Swiss canton
53 Will beneficiary
54 Ethereal
55 19-Across' party

Crossword down

- 1 Decrease
2 Needing liniment
3 Roll call reply
4 Immobilizer
5 Dorian Gray's creator
6 Corroded
7 Seeming contradiction
8 Inhumane
9 Possesses
10 Capades site
11 Homer's neighbour
12 Flanders
16 Of the upper hipbone
20 Huge
23 Places
24 History chapters
25 Musical based on "La Bohème"
26 Amazon.com buy
27 Needle case
28 Any of the Dionne quintuplets
29 Henhouse threat
32 Starbucks employee
33 South Korean capital
35 Symbol of intrigue
36 Basis for grits
38 "The Biggest —"
39 "Real Time" moderator
42 Punch
43 Architect
44 Plumbing problem
45 La-la preceder
46 "The Raven" writer
47 Submachine gun
49 Greek X

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



3	9	1	4	5	2	6	7	8
2	5	8	6	7	3	1	4	9
6	4	7	8	9	1	2	3	5
1	2	5	9	3	6	4	8	7
9	6	4	7	2	8	3	5	1
8	7	3	5	1	4	9	6	2
4	8	9	2	6	5	7	1	3
7	3	6	1	8	9	5	2	4
5	1	2	3	4	7	8	9	6

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

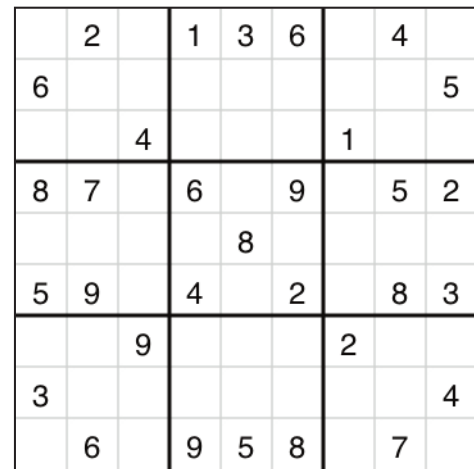
SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min	Genius	17-21 min	Smart
13-17 min	Scholar	21-25 min	Not bad
		25+ min	Keep practising

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



Metro Recipe of the Day



Fava Bean, Shrimp and Feta Salad

INGREDIENTS:

1 can (19 oz / 540 ml) fava beans
2-3 sprigs of fresh mint
1/2 lb (250 g) feta cheese
1/2 lb (250 g) peeled, cooked shrimp

FOR DRESSING:

1 large lemon
6 tbsp (90 ml) extra virgin olive oil
1 clove garlic
Salt and black pepper

METHOD:

1. Put kettle of water on to boil. Put beans into pot with sprig of mint. Cover with boiling water and simmer 6 minutes. Drain and rinse beans, then drain again.
2. Drain and dice cheese.

Put into salad bowl; add shrimp.
3. For dressing, squeeze 1/2 lemon, mix 2 tbsp (25 ml) juice with olive oil, then peel garlic and crush into the dressing. Rinse, dry and finely chop remaining mint and whisk into dressing. Season with salt and pepper to taste.
4. Add drained beans to cheese and shrimp and stir in dressing. Serve with wedges cut from remaining 1/2 lemon.

SERVES 4



Horoscopes

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20

An exceptional person makes an alarming statement. A legal issue isn't troublesome due to reconciliation. Check out a proposed business venture.

LIBRA

SEPT 23-OCT 23

Ask someone to obey the rules. Don't be peeved by needless noise. A decision has been postponed.

TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21

Don't let anyone down because you're offended. Difficulties arise when someone is huffy. A hidden agenda scares you.

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22

You'll have to take sides when you don't want to. Don't pry into other people's private feelings. A loved one may seem to be flawed.

GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21

Be well behaved in public. Being optimistic will give others more hope. News of momentous events cheers you up.

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21

Someone refuses to be second-best. Important documents are found for a lost cause. A spend-thrift feels deprived.

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22

Do what you're told, if you're unsure. Don't settle for weak promises. Be sensitive to other people's exceptional thoughts.

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20

A sad person is found in a dusty place. Someone needs to forget about a personal loss. A demoted guy must be considered.

LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23

A favourite person's deed has a strange effect. Consider taking longer than expected to finish a task. You'll witness marital affection.

AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18

Chaotic events produce some anxiety. You need to have more confidence in the future. A lively person can repair a precarious financial position.

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEPT 22

You'll inspire an amusing buddy. A big bargain will bring rewards. You'll get feedback on what you've done.

PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20

Don't protect others from situational fallout. A relationship termination will be confusing. Use self-control and turn the other cheek in a spat.

AVATAR VENUS

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(519) 946-0283

BARRIE
510 Blythe Dr.
(705) 797-0361

ORANGEVILLE
110 Broadway Ave.
(519) 941-6624

SCARBOROUGH
1399 Kennedy Rd.
(416) 759-7788

TORONTO
230 College St.
(416) 962-7788

HAMILTON
1093 Upper James St. N.
(905) 574-6655

KITCHENER
1138 Wellington St. N.
(519) 772-3284